

SECRET

OLC 70-0571

17 August 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Bill Woodruff, Counsel, Senate
Appropriations Committee**

1. I met with Bill Woodruff today and gave him the Director's letter of 12 August 1970 covering the latest Reserve withdrawal and the subsequent reimbursement in the same amount. I also covered the following items:

a. Briefed him on the recent deployment of U-2s.



25X1

c. The Venus space probe and the possibility of subsequent launchings.

d. Identification of three possible Soviet nuclear weapons storage sites in Eastern Europe.

e. The recent sightings of three Foxbat fighter-interceptors.

2. Woodruff informed me that Senator Russell is trying to be on the Hill each day from noon to 4:00 p.m. and all Appropriations Committee meetings are cleared with him but for all intents and purposes Senator Ellender is chairing the Appropriations Committee although he does not use the title Acting Chairman.

SECRET

SECRET

3. He said he would like to have a briefing on [] and would be happy to call a meeting of the Appropriations Subcommittee for this purpose. (He repeated the offer previously made to Mr. Maury that he would be glad to convene a meeting of the CIA Appropriations Subcommittee at any time, for any purpose the Director wished.) He added, however, that the Appropriations CIA Subcommittee now prefers to operate as a separate Subcommittee, independent of the Armed Services CIA Subcommittee. He said he thought perpetuation of joint Senate Subcommittee meetings would be a mistake. He feels that, in retrospect, these joint meetings have served to confuse matters in the minds of many people. Notwithstanding the above, Woodruff offered to try to include the Armed Services CIA Subcommittee in the [] briefing if the Director wanted him to. He noted in passing that this would force a decision as to whether Senator Stennis or Senator Ellender would preside at such a meeting.

25X1D

25X1D

4. With respect to my briefing on the U-2 flights, Woodruff asked if it was alright for him to brief Senator Ellender and Senator Milton Young on this. He said he thinks Senator Ellender needs to feel that he is "in the know" as far as CIA is concerned and feels this would serve that purpose. He commented that Senator Ellender is now fully briefed on all sensitive Agency matters with the exception of the [] I told Woodruff I was certain that there was no objection to his briefing Ellender and Young, but that I would check this out with the Director.

25X1D

5. I told Woodruff that John Warner and John Clarke would like to meet with him and with Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee staff, (preferably in a joint meeting) to discuss the funding of operations in Southeast Asia. Woodruff said this was fine and expressed a preference for a joint meeting if it could be arranged that way.

6. I mentioned Walter Pincus' initial conversation with us expressing interest in information on the CIA budget. Woodruff was aware that the Foreign Relations staff has queried NSA on this. He said he had told NSA that they could certainly take the position that the Appropriations Committee is fully briefed on the NSA budget, but that what they did was up to them. (The inference from this remark was that the same response would apply to CIA.)

SECRET

SECRET

7. I mentioned to Woodruff Chairman River's position regarding the Agency retirement legislation (i. e., that he would do nothing this time until the Senate acted on the legislation) and Woodruff commented that he couldn't blame Mr. Rivers a bit.

8. With respect to our trip to Europe, Woodruff asked if I thought it would be necessary for him to get a letter from Senator Russell requesting this and I told him I was sure it would not. He said by present outlook the trip would have to be cut to ten days and it might be better to go after the first of the year than in October. We will see how the situation develops.



Acting Legislative Counsel

25X1A

Distribution:

Orig. - Subject

1 - Ex. Dir-Compt

1 - OGC

1 - OPPB

① - Chrono

OLC/GLC:rw (19 Aug 70)

SECRET